

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 123

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of H. C. "Ham" Brundige of Martin.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of H.C. "Ham" Brundige; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brundige was born January 23, 1919 to the late Homer and Gertie Smith Brundige; his brothers and sisters were the late E. J. Brundige, Carneal Brundige, Reuben Brundige and Zela McWherter, and surviving brothers Woodrow Brundige and Harold Brundige; and

WHEREAS, Ham Brundige was the owner of Brundige Sausage Company and West Tennessee Auction Company for forty-five years, and had extensive farming and livestock operations as well; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Weakley County, Mr. Brundige was a highly respected member of not only the Martin community but the entire Weakley County area; and

WHEREAS, Ham Brundige was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; he served on the Tennessee Livestock Board under four different

Governors and was the Director of the Dyersburg Production Credit Association for fifteen years; and

WHEREAS, "Mr. Ham" served with acumen and alacrity for twelve years as an alderman for the city of Martin, and as the Mayor of Martin for three terms, and County Executive of Weakley County for four years, in which positions he earned the respect of his peers and constituents alike for his dedication to the greater good of the area; and

WHEREAS, as mayor, Mr. Brundige conducted administrations that were noted for fiscal responsibility and dramatic revenue growth; during his six years as Martin's mayor, the city's tax rate dropped from \$2.15 to \$1.00 while the city's fund balance swelled from \$1.3 to \$6.4 million; and

WHEREAS, Ham Brundige's administrations were marked by the opening of a Senior Citizen's center, the construction of the Van Ayer Manor Nursing Home, the purchase of the city's first computers and the construction of a new fire station; in 1982, the city received the Municipal Achievement Award from the Tennessee Municipal League; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brundige was an active and devout member of the Central Baptist Church, where he served his Lord faithfully for fifty-nine years as a member, as a deacon and as a Sunday School teacher; he also had a 32-year perfect attendance record in the Berean Sunday School class; and

WHEREAS, Ham Brundige was always able to look past the nonessential elements of skin color, economic status or social class to connect with the essential human being within; he contributed unstintingly to help those whom he knew to have need of what he could offer. Dr. Leon Morris, a former Sunday School pupil of Mr. Brundige, quoted the following from the Bible to sum up Ham Brundige's life: *"I have glorified thee on the earth. I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, oh Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I have with thee..."*; and

WHEREAS, Ham Brundige was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brundige enjoyed the loving companionship of Maidelle Turner Brundige and was the proud parent of Randy Brundige, Sandra Robbins, Fran Spears, and Pam Batson; Ham and Maidelle were the loving grandparents of several grandchildren and great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Ham Brundige leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mr. H. C. "Ham" Brundige, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Ham Brundige.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.